REMARKS

This Reply is fully responsive to the final Office Action mailed on August 22, 2006. Reconsideration and reexamination of the subject application, as amended, pursuant to and consistent with the remarks which follow are respectfully requested.

The Examiner is thanked for the indication in the Office Action that Claims 235-253 directed to human T1R2 nucleic acid sequences are allowable. In the Office Action and on the PTOL-326 Claims 254-267 are indicated as being rejected. It is believed that the present amendments will place all the claims in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully note that non-rejected claims 235-238 are (CURRENTLY AMENDED) herein in order to cure an objection not noted in the final rejection and for consistency purposes. These amendments do not raise new issues and entry thereof after final rejection is proper.

First, claim 236 directed to a nucleic acid encoding a specific sequence has been (CURRENTLY AMENDED) to be an independent claim. Secondly, claims 237 and 238 are (CURRENTLY AMENDED)because claim 236 previously recited nucleic acid sequences encoding polypeptides having at least 90% sequence identity to SEQ ID NO: 21 rather than 95% sequence identity which recitation improperly broadened the scope of claim 235 from which it depends which recites sequences having at least 95% sequence identity. Also, claim 235 has been (CURRENTLY AMENDED) to recite nucleic acid sequences encoding

the human T1R3 polypeptide in SEQ ID NO:4 or sequences that specifically hybridize thereto under the same stringent hybridization conditions recited in clause (iii).

Claims 254-267 were rejected on new matter grounds as allegedly encompassing constructs containing G proteins and GPCRs not supported by the as-filed specification. These objections are moot based on the present claim amendments and cancelled claims.

Claims 254-267 were objected on written description grounds for allegedly not providing antecedent basis in the specification for the co-expression of T1R2 with GPCRs other than T1R3. This rejection is moot as claim as claim 256 has been cancelled. This cancellation is without predjudice.

Claims 254-267 were further rejected on written description grounds as allegedly encompassing vectors that provide for the co-expression and functional association of human T1R2 with G polypeptides not described in the specification. This rejection is moot as claims 254 has been (CURRENTLY AMENDED) to obviate the objection and 255 has been canceled. These amendments are without prejudice as it is respectfully maintained that the teachings in the application and the then-state of the art would establish that Applicant's invention embraced expression systems containing a hT1R2 sequence and a suitable G polypeptide wherein the G polypeptide may be endogenous to the cell that the hT1R2 sequence is expressed or is introduced by recombinant means such as on a plasmid expression vector as previously recited.

Therefore, withdrawal of the § 112 written description rejection of claims 254-267 is respectfully requested.

Based on the foregoing, these amendments and remarks should place this application in condition for allowance. A Notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0206 (Docket #54289US).

Respectfully submitted,

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